June 4, 1900. — 5 M. — 9.25 Willett.

YOUNG PEOPLE'S DEPARTMENT,
HOME MISSIONS,
156 Fifth Ave., New York City.

Home Mission Wheels.

YOUNG PEOPLE'S WORK.

YES, wheels! Big wheels and little ones too. All make up our Home Mission machinery.

The relation of the Board of Home Missions to the young people's societies is so clearly defined in the leaflet "Hints on Home Missions for Presbyterian Young People" and is being so widely read (have you read it?) that it seems unnecessary to repeat in this little leaflet of suggestions to secretaries. Suffice it to say, the General Assembly of 1896, knowing the value of the machinery of the Woman's Board, asked the women of the churches to undertake and supervise the education of the young people in Presbyterian Home Missions. Therefore, in the women's synodical and presbyterial organizations young people's secretaries have been elected whose duty it is to present to all local young people's societies—under instruction from headquarters—the work of Home Missions in all its branches. It is a good machine and we like to "watch the wheels go 'round." How to keep these wheels in effective working order is the question. There is nothing inspiring in a motionless wheel, and if these Home Mission wheels are active there is "something for each of us now to do."

The first, and most important "wheel" is THE INDIVIDUAL, for the most important office is the one *you* hold, the most important committee the one to which *you* belong, and if *your* work is neglected motion ceases.

"Turn, turn my wheel! This earthen jar
A touch can make, a touch can mar."

We take it this individual is leader of a mission band, or chairman of a missionary committee and ready to inspire the whole society with a zeal for Home Missions by intelligent, enthusiastic service. Upon this officer all secretaries of the larger organizations depend for faithfully presenting to societies the work suggested, and returning a report of the same.

Frequently societies cannot assume the entire salary of a missionary, even though they realize the need for gospel dissemination, and desire to have a share in telling the "Old, Old Story," and here we find the place for the *second wheel*—the PRESBYTERIAL SECRETARY—who corresponds with every society in her presbytery through the chairman of the missionary committee, and urges them to unite with others in providing the salary of one or more missionaries. In order that the work may be done systematically, and the interest of the young people sustained, pledge blanks are sent each society with a letter giving the names of the special missionaries assigned, and assurance that three letters a year, giving news from the front, will be sent (from headquarters) if a pledge is made of an offering toward the work of Home Missions. This blank includes spaces for the names of the presbyterial secretary, the chosen missionary, the one to whom letters shall be sent, and that of the presbyterial treasurer, through whom Christian Endeavor money may be transmitted.

And why send through the presbyterial treasurer? It is a matter of economy of time and money for your Board. Take, for instance, the Christian Endeavor Societies in any one large city. If each sends independently to New York it frequently means a discount on checks (or some fee for collecting), an acknowledgment to each society and a two-cent stamp on each letter; and you know how quickly dollars disappear in postage stamps.

Several thousand young people's societies are an important part of the two hundred presbyterial organizations. Our women are willing to save the Board this expense of administration. You will help by clearly designating your offering when you forward it to the treasurer of your presbyterial society, and by forwarding promptly, in quarterly payments if possible. March 31st closes the fiscal year.

Following the Presbyterian form, we realize the need of *another wheel*, the SYNODICAL SECRETARY, who receives from the main office, 156 Fifth Avenue, New York, the suggestions which she is to formulate and pass along to the presbyteries within the borders of her synod. Because the Young People's Department belongs equally to the Assembly's Board and the Woman's Board, a home missionary and a missionary teacher are suggested each synod for the Christian Endeavor Societies, and they are expected to be responsible for these salaries.

Mission bands are connected with the Woman's Board, and usually provide scholarships or contribute toward the special work of the auxiliary of which they are a part.

After all, there are not many wheels! Let us recapitulate and glance briefly at the work of each.

Headquarters, Presbyterian Building, at 156 Fifth Avenue, New York City.

Wheel Number 1, the SYNODICAL SECRETARY, who receives from headquarters plans for work, and the names of special missionaries or special schools. For Christian Endeavor Societies both a home missionary and a missionary teacher are suggested, and a letter is usually sent out by this secretary after the synodical meeting, calling upon all societies in her synod for co-operation. The societies are reached through

Wheel Number 2, the PRESBYTERIAL SECRETARY, who writes a letter outlining the work, giving the names of these missionaries, and probably some account of their work. She sends the pledge blanks and returns them to New York after they have been returned to her and entered in her own books. She stands ready to assist the local societies in any way, if asked for help. Communication with societies is carried on through

Wheel Number 3, the Band Secretary, Chairman of the Missionary Committee, Corresponding Secretary, Superintendent of the Junior Society or any reliable correspondent suggested. It is most essential that notification be sent *headquarters* when any changes are made in these officers. Failure to do this may stop the machinery, and your young people will lose interest because they are neglected.

"Try to put well in practice what you already know; and in so doing you will in good time discover the hidden things which you now inquire about. Practice what you know, and it will make clear what now you do not know."

"Whatsoever ye do, do it heartily as to the Lord and not unto men; knowing that of the Lord ye shall receive the reward of the inheritance; for ye serve the Lord Christ." Col. 3: 23, 24.